

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LENDING 00721 111026Z

22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SY-05 DHA-02 L-03 H-02 SCS-03

SCA-01 /031 W

----- 059379

R 110910Z MAY 76

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2224

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 0 7 2 1

DEPARTMENT FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV, SAS

USIA FOR IEU

MOSCOW FOR P&C, RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF IREX GRANTEE SERGE GREGORY

REF: MOSCOW 7167

1. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES DETAILS REQUESTED REFTEL.

2. GIST OF DIPLOMATIC AGENCY NOTE IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE. GREGORY WAS BROUGHT TO SOBERING-UP STATION IN STATE OF STRONG ALCOHOLIC INTOXICATION. GREGORY VIOLATED PUBLIC ORDER, EXPRESSED HIMSELF WITH PROFANITY, SHOWED INSUBORDINATION TO WORKERS OF MILITIA AND BROKE SHOULDER BOARD OF ONE OF THEM. AFTER RECEIVING MEDICAL ATTENTION, GREGORY WAS RELEASED, PAYING 15 RUBLES FOR MEDICAL SERVICES. DIPLOMATIC AGENCY DIRECTS ATTENTION OF CONSULATE GENERAL TO NECESSITY OF EXPLAINING TO U.S. CITIZENS, LOCATED IN LENINGRAD, THE INTOLERABILITY OF VIOLATING KNOWN PROCEDURES OF MOVEMENT OF FOREIGNERS IN TERRITORY OF U.S.S.R. AND OF UNWORTHY BEHAVIOR WHICH INFLECTS HARM ON DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE.

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3. BPAO DISCUSSED NOTE WITH GREGORY PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE. HE STATED THAT PORTION ABOUT HIS BEHAVIOR DESCRIBED BEHAVIOR OF ONE OF HIS SOVIET ACQUAINTANCES, NOT HIS OWN.

4. WHILE CONGEN DOES NOT IN ANY WAY CONDONE KGB ACTION HERE, WE DOUBT THAT EXCHANGE AGREEMENT JEOPARDIZED OR THAT ANY PROTEST FROM US WILL PREVENT KGB FROM TAKING ADVANTAGE OF TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY IN FUTURE. SINCE GREGORY SAFELY OUT OF COUNTRY, IF EMBASSY CONSIDERS PROTEST NECESSARY, SUGGEST IF FOCUS ON QUESTION OF DENIAL OF CONSULAR ACCESS RATHER THAN ALLEGED KGB ACTIONS. REFERENCE TO KGB INVOLVEMENT WILL ONLY BE DENIED AND, DESPITE OBVIOUS IMPLICATIONS OF INCIDENT FOR GREGORY'S FUTURE AS RUSSIAN AREA SPECIALIST, WE BELIEVE THAT SPECIFICALLY PROTESTING PRESUMED KGB APPROACH, HOWEVER ACCURATE, COULD COMPLICATE GREGORY'S FUTURE RESEARCH IN AREA. IN OUR VIEW, IT IS BETTER TO FOCUS ON THE DENIAL OF CONSULAR ACCESS RATHER THAN INJECT KGB ANGLE INTO THE ALREADY MUDDIED WATERS.

5. CONGEN BELIEVES THAT IT IS PREFERABLE FOR PROTEST NOTE TO SOVIETS TO COME FROM CONGEN RATHER THAN EMBASSY SINCE INCIDENT HAPPENED HERE AND SOVIET NOTE ON IT WAS FROM DIPLOMATIC AGENCY TO US. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. GREGORY'S COMPLETE STATEMENT OF EVENTS WILL BE SENT VIA POUCH.  
NEUBERT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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